

Investigate: How did faster vehicles develop?

Type	Purpose	Differentiation
ICT	Pupils use the Internet to learn about the development of faster vehicles and prepare a presentation on a chosen aspect.	Core

Running the activity

Pupils use the Internet to research the development of faster vehicles. They select a type of transport and an aspect of development to investigate. With your guidance they decide how to present their material in an interesting and informative way. This could be in the form of a poster, a leaflet or a PowerPoint presentation, for instance. You decide whether they are going to work independently or as part of a group. Finally, pupils are encouraged to evaluate the information they have collected.

Here are some websites to get them started. You may prefer to initiate your own search, provide a more limited number of sites or leave pupils to do their own searches.

Bikes

[Bikefix – Bicycle design](#)

Cars

[Transport Japan – The history of transport](#)

[The Grid Club – Cars section](#)

[Landspeed.com](#)

[Channel 4 Science – Land speed record](#)

Aircraft

[Speed Record Club – Air speed record](#)

[Air Racing History](#)

All vehicles

[Speed Record Club – Speed records for all vehicles](#)

Pitfalls

Pupils should be discouraged from collecting too much information and warned against copying large amounts of text. Their presentations should be in their own words, perhaps with the inclusion of diagrams, graphs or data from secondary sources.

Investigate: How did faster vehicles develop?

You are going to use the Internet to research the development of faster vehicles and prepare a presentation on an aspect that you have chosen to investigate.

Planning

- 1 Select the type of vehicle you plan to research.
- 2 Choose the aspect of the development of faster vehicles of this type that you are going to research, e.g.
 - increasing the thrust of the engine
 - reducing friction
 - streamlining to reduce air resistance.

Your teacher may give you some websites to get you started, or you may prefer to initiate your own search.

Obtaining evidence

- 3 Collect together the information that is relevant to your chosen invention and aspect of development. Make sure you have some diagrams or photos. You may wish to include some data or graphs.

Evaluating the information

- 4 Evaluate the strength of the evidence you have collected.
You should
 - consider the merits of the websites used
 - decide how reliable your information sources were
 - consider how easy it was to find relevant information about your chosen aspect.

Presenting your research

- 5 Decide how to present your chosen material in an interesting and informative way. This could be in the form of a poster, a leaflet or a PowerPoint presentation, for instance. Your teacher will tell you whether you are going to work independently or as part of a group.
- 6 Edit your information into a presentation describing the development of your vehicle to increase its speed.